



Men dancing The Reel of the 51st Division

Changes & Growth

Autumn 1975–2000

“We thank you all for what you’ve done to add to wisdom so much fun. The life of Pinewoods never ends; it’s wonderful to have you come, good friends.”

—Richard (Dick) Conant, Sr.

AUTUMN
1975

1976 First Apple computer

1980

1982 E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial movie charmed the world

1983 HIV was identified as the cause of AIDS

1985

1989 Berlin Wall came down

1991 World Wide Web debuted

1990s

2000

Communities using Pinewoods raised money to purchase Camp and incorporate a non-profit: Pinewoods Camp, Inc. (PCI). The board of directors oversaw year-round work and hired Gerda Conant as seasonal camp manager, providing continuity and knowledge transfer. Pinewoods thrived with new programs and people, renovations, new construction, and an extended season.

Autumn 1975

The new era began

October 7: Ownership of camp transferred from Conants to Pinewoods Camp, Inc. (PCI).

Richard K. Conant, Sr. (Dick) died the next day, October 8.



Conant Family Collection

Genevieve Shimer: First President of the PCI Board



Photo by David Conant

Gerda Conant: First PCI Camp Manager



Photo by Terry Baker

Jacqueline Schwab: First non-family camp manager



1975 Frank Edwards, dancer and camp volunteer, swiftly drew the now iconic tree logo and Pinewoods script for the first issue of the *Pinewoods Post*.

Pinewoods

Phil Merrill, pictured in 1976, was an influential mentor to musicians and dancers. He was a constant on the Pinewoods staff from the late 1930s to the early 1980s and for 20 years the CDSS National Music Director.



UNIT/CDSSA

1975 Folk Arts Center of New England (FACONE) incorporated to become an official Pinewoods Program Provider.

1975–1980 All the camp communities united for a five-year committed effort to raise money to purchase, staff, repair, and rebuild Pinewoods. Final payment made April 1, 1980.

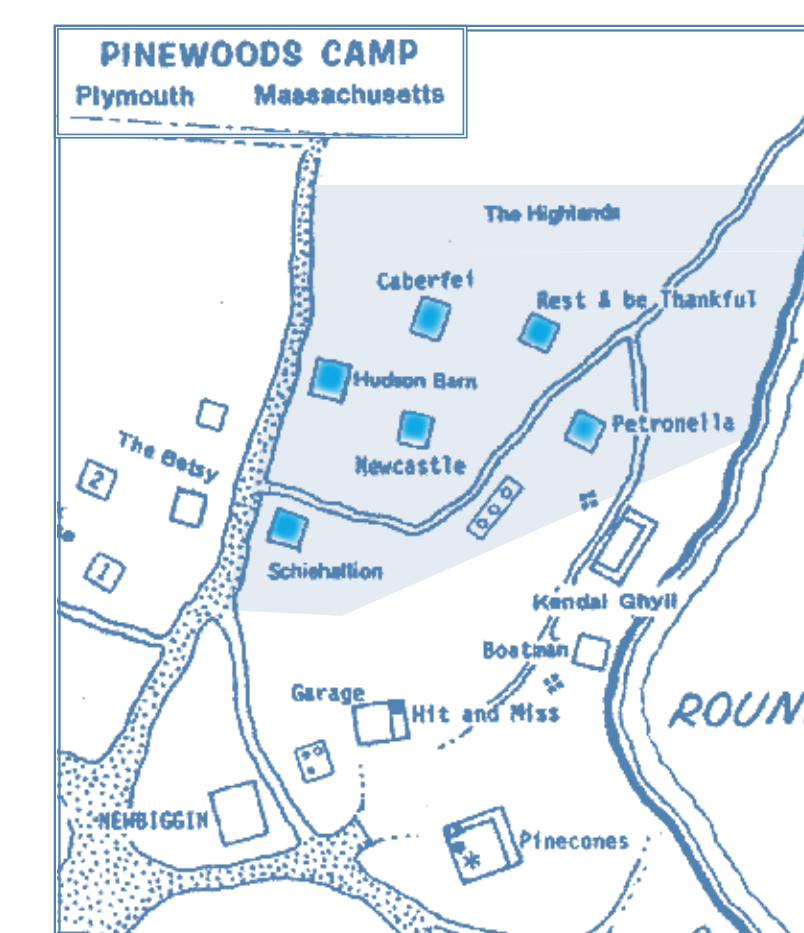
1976 First summer under Pinewoods Camp, Inc.

1975–2000 The PCI Management Committee managed the year-round work of winter caretaking, budgeting, short and long-term maintenance, and new construction.



Photo by Richard Payne

Family Week Parade 1988



The cabins in the Highlands, shown on a map from 2012

Program Sessions: New sessions began, others ended or changed

1976

First summer season as PCI, with the same sessions as 1975

1977

First FAC weekend at Pinewoods

CDSS added American Week

1978

First CDS-Boston Centre Labor Day Weekend

1978–1982

Appalachian Mountain Club Weekend (AMC)

1979

CDSS Dance I & II transformed into English Week and English & American (E&A) Week

1980–1984

CDS-Boston Centre ran Relaxing Days, an unprogrammed, partial week following July 4th Weekend.

1982

FAC added a second session and made their weekend into an optional full week.

1982–1985

AMC and Scandinavian sessions shared or alternated a June weekend.

1985

CDS-Boston Centre and Boston branch RSCDS started English-Scottish Session (ESS).

1988

CDS-Boston Centre started First Weekend (renamed Swing into Summer in 2011).

1994–1995

September FAC Swing Weekend

1996 only

FAC Cajun & Zydeco Weekend

1979–1982

Facility improvements

A new neighborhood created: the Highlands

Schiehallion and five two-person cabins built, Highlands toilets added

1991–1996

Crew bathrooms and laundry building added

Dining Hall toilets and Hunsdon shower house added

1974–1997

Major Buildings Transformed:

Multiple renovations to C# (Hands Across)

The Camp Manager’s house, John Raymond, burned to the ground in 1990 and PCI built a winterized replacement.

Seasonal Camp Managers

ran summer operations in residence during summer season.

1975–1980

Gerda Conant

1981–1988

Jacqueline Schwab
Robin Rogers Brown
Co-manager 1981
Asst. Manager 1982–84

1989–1994

Susannah
Diamondstone

1994

Jane Tompson

1994–2000

Eileen Callahan

1991 Hurricane Bob roared through Pinewoods during CDSS English Week leveling trees, taking out electricity and water. Yellow jackets swarmed so thickly, the crew screened the dining hall.

PCI Management Changes

Autumn 2000

In recognition that the seasonal manager job had evolved to become more professional, the PCI board created the position of Executive Director and promoted Eileen Callahan to that position.



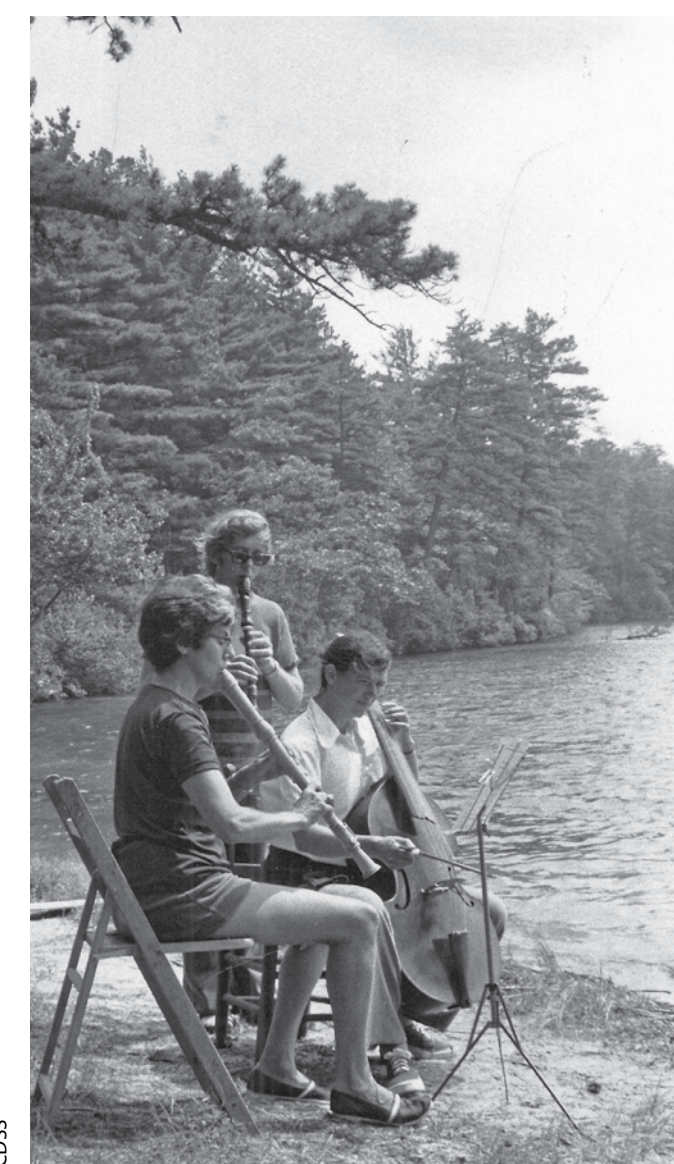
Photo by Nancy P. Roberts

C# in 1970



Photo by David Conant

Early Music Week 1982



CDSS

Family Week 1985

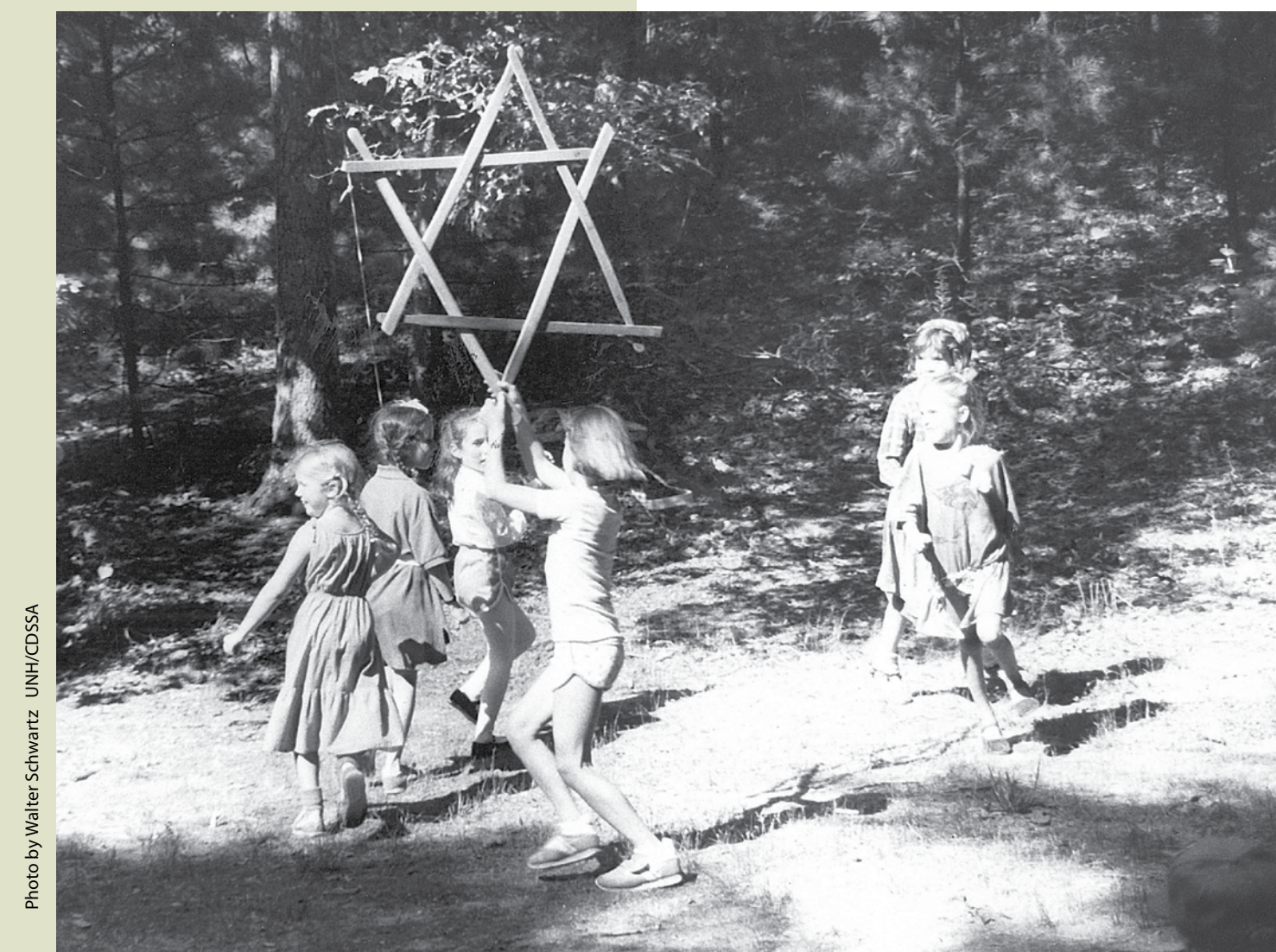


Photo by Walter Schmitt. UNIT/CDSSA

E&A Week 1992



Photo by Stephen Sander. UNIT/CDSSA



Where dance, music, and song traditions thrive.